Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

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AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

USMISSION NATO

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY HELSINKI

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

AMEMBASSY VIENNA

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, PINT, PO, DA

SUBJECT: DANISH PRIME MINISTER'S SECOND DAY IN PORTUGAL

REF: COPENHAGEN 2300, 2286, 2266, 2244

SUMMARY: DURING HIS MEETING WITH COSTA GOMES, DANISH PRIME MINISTER JORGENSEN REPORTEDLY LAID OUT FRANKLY THE SERIOUS CONCERN FELT BY WESTERN EUROPEAN LEADERS OVER DE-

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VELOPMENTS IN EUROPE. IN REPLY, COSTA GOMES EMPHASIZED

PORTUGALS NATO OBLIGATIONS AND CLOSE EUROEPAN TIES.
JORGENSEN WAS PREVENTED BY MISUNDERSTANDINGS AND DISTURBANCES FROM TOURING THE LISNAVE SHIPYARD. REFERRING TO PREVIOUS, WELL-KNOWN "BLUNDERS" BY JORGENSEN, A COPENHAGEN DAILY CHARACTERIZED HIS PORTUGAL TRIP AS "NIAVE". AN MFA OFFICIAL ALSO MADE IT CLEAR TO US THAT THE DANISH BUREAUCRACY WAS UNCOMFORTABLE WITH THE CONDUCT OF FOREIGN POLICY OUTSIDE THE SCOPE OF TRADITIONAL DIPLOMATIC CHANNELS BY A "PARTY LEADER". END SUMMARY.

- 1. ACCORDING TO THE DANISH PRESS, DURING PRIME MINISTER ANKER JORGENSEN'S 50-MINUTE MEETING WITH PRESIDENT COSTA GOMES ON AUGUST 12, THE FORMER AGAIN EMPHASIZED THAT HE WAS VITING PORTUGAL PURELY AS CHAIRMAN OF THE DANISH SOCIAL DEMOCRATIC PARTY. JORGENSEN KEPT HIS ADVANCE PROMISE TO SPEAK FRANKLY TO COSTA GOMES AND EXPRESSED SERIOUS CONCERN OVER RECENT DEVELOPMENTS IN PORTUGAL. JORGENSEN SAID THAT THE SOCIAL DEMOCRATIC LEADERS WHO MET IN STOCKHOLM AS WELL AS THE EC-9 WANTED TO SEE PLURALISTIC DEMOCRACY IN PORTUGAL. "WE ALSO CONSIDER IT IMPORTANT THAT PORTUGAL STAY IN NATO AS A DEMOCRATIC STATE."
- 2. COSTA GOMES REPORTEDLY DESCRIBED PORTGUAL AS A "PLURALISTIC SYSTEM WITHIN A SOCIALIST STATE" AND EMPHASIZED PORTUGAL'S OBLIGATIONS TO NATO AND ITS CLOSE TIES WITH EUROPE. COSTA GOMES ASSERTED THAT PORTUGAL HAS A FREE PRESS "PERHAPS TOO FREE" AND THAT A NEW PRESS LAW IS UNDER PREPARATION. HE ALSO CRITICIZED FOREIGN REPORTING ON PORTUGAL.
- 3. JORGENSEN WAS SCHEDULED TO MEET WITH CHIEF EDITOR OF ESPRESSO DR BALSIMAO AND THE FORMER EDITOR OF REPUBLICA RAOUL REGO SOME TIME BEFORE LEAVING PORTUGAL AUGUST 13.
- 4. JORGENSEN'S SCHEDULED VISIT TO THE LARGE SHIPYARD LISNAVE LED TO A CONTRETEMPS. WHEN JORGENSEN ARRIVED THERE "STATE REPRESENTATIVE" MAJOR FORTE WOULD NOT ALLOW HIM TO ENTER WITH HIS GUIDE SOCIALIST PARTY SECRETARY MARCELLO CURTO. JORGENSEN'S VISIT FURTHERMORE PROVOKED "INTENSE" DISCUSSION AMONG THE WORKERS AT THE SHIPYARD AND BETWEEN JORGENSEN AND HIS GUIDE AND REPRESENTATIVES OF THE WORKERS AND THEREFORE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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JORGENSEN DID NOT ENTER THE SHIPYARD ITSELF. BERLINGSKE TIDENDE (INDEPENDENT CONSERVATIVE) DESCRIBED THE SHIPYARD INCIDENT AS A "DEFINITE SETBACK FOR ANKER JORGENSEN'S ATTEMPTS TO CONTACT PORTUGUESE WORKERS" AND DESCRIBED THE WHOLE ATMOSPHERE AS "RATHER THREATENING, EVEN THOUGH THERE WAS NO THREAT TO JORGENSEN HIMSELF."

5. SEVERAL DANISH REPORTERS EXPRESSED DOUBTS ABOUT THE WISDOM

OF ANKER JORGENSEN'S PRESENCE AT A SOCIALIST MEETING AT AMADORA MONDAY NIGHT AUGUST 11. THE MEETING ENDED WITH THE USUAL SHOUTED SLOGANS INCLUDING "DOWN WITH VASCO". THE INCIDENT HAS NOT GONE UNNOTICED IN PORTUGAL ACCORDING TO THESE REPORTS.

6. INFORMATION (LEFT WING INTELLECTUAL) COMMENTED EDITORIALLY ON AUGUST 13 THAT IT HAS BECOME INCREASINGLY DIFFICULT TO DISTINGUISH BETWEEN ANKER JORGENSEN THE SOCIAL DEMOCRATIC LEADER AND ANKER JORGENSEN THE PRIME MINISTER. THE NEWSPAPER CONTINUES THAT "WE NOW HAVE ON OUR HANDS A NEW BLUNDER BY ANKER JORGENSEN" (REFERRING TO PREVIOUS FAUX PAS SUCH AS HIS STATEMENT AFTER THE FALL OF SOUTH VIETNAM, ETC) THIS STYLE IS UNFORTUNATELY NOT ONLY CHARACETERIZED BY "FRANKNESS, BUT EVEN MOVE BY NAIVETE..." THE COMMUNISTS, SAID INFORMATION MAY END UP AS MARTYRS IN PORTUGAL AND THEN JORGENSEN'S "SUMMER LAPSE" COULD BECOME A NIGHTMARE. IF THIS OCCURS, PART OF THE BLAME MAY EASILY BE ATTRIBUTED TO THE MAN SENT TO PORTUGAL BY THE OTHER EUROPEAN SOCIAL DEMOCRATIC LEADERS "WHILE THEY THEMSELVES WISELY STAYED AT HOME".

7. COMMENT: DURING THE DCM'S CALL YESTERDAY ON MFA'S CHIEF OF EUROPEAN AND NORTH AMERICAN AFFAIRS, JORGEN KORSGAARD-PEDERSEN, THE LATTER SAID THE MINISTRY HAD RECEIVED ABSOLUTELY NO WORD FROM JORGENSEN DURING HIS PORTUGUESE VISIT AND KNEW NO MORE THAN WHAT HAD APPEARED IN THE PRESS IN DENMARK. KORSGAARD-PEDERSEN AS A PROPER BUREAUCRAT WAS OBVIUSLY UNCOMFORTABLE OVER THE DISTINCTION THAT JORGENSEN WAS ATTEMPTING TO MAINTAIN BETWEEN PARTY LEADER AND PRIME MINISTER AND WAS SOMEWHAT TESTY IN HIS REFERENCES TO FOREIGN POLICY ADVENTURES CONDUCTED BY PARTY POLITICIANS OUTSIDE THE SCOPE OF TRADITIONAL DIPLOMATIC CHANNELS. LUKENS

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